

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph [0002] on page 1 of the specification, and replace it with the following paragraph:

[0002] This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/264,067, filed January 25, 2001, and U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/333,743, filed November 29, 2001. The content of these applications is incorporated herein by reference.

Please delete paragraph [0155], on page 43, and replace it with the following paragraph:

[0155] Methods and vectors and kits are provided for producing chimeric nucleic acid constructs capable of producing dsRNA for silencing target nucleic acid sequences of interest using recombinational cloning.

Please delete paragraph [0109], on page 32, and replace it with the following paragraph:

[0109] PCR amplification and recombination using the GATEWAY™ technology with the commercially available BP Clonase (Life Technologies) were performed according to the manufacturer's instructions.